

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

Claim 1 (currently amended): A strengthened blade tape measure, comprising:

a tape casing having a receiving cavity and a guider opening communicating with said receiving cavity;

a retraction unit supported in said receiving cavity; and

a ruler blade, having an inner end attached to said retraction unit and an outer end stopped at said ~~guiding~~ guider opening, adapted to slidably fold between a storage position and a measuring position, wherein at said storage position, said ruler blade is retracted to receive in said receiving cavity in a coil flattened configuration manner via said retraction unit, and at said measuring ~~portion~~ position, said outer end of said ruler blade is slidably pulled to extend said ruler blade in a concave-convex configuration out of said receiving cavity through said guider opening,

said ruler blade having a width in said flattened configuration thereof having a dimension within a range of 41-42mm, a height in said concave-convex configuration thereof having a dimension within a range of 9-12mm, and a thickness thereof having a dimension at least 2mm, such that said ruler blade is capable of standing out from said tape casing with a measuring length at least 10 feet in a self-sustaining manner so as to prevent said ruler blade from buckling by its own weight.

Claim 2 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 1, wherein said width of said ruler blade in said flattened configuration is 41.27mm and said height of said ruler blade in said concave-convex configuration is 11.34mm.

Claim 3 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 1, wherein said width of said ruler blade in said flattened configuration is 41.29mm and said height of said ruler blade in said concave-convex configuration is 11.03mm.

Claim 4 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 1, wherein said width of said ruler blade in said flattened configuration is 41.29mm and said height of said ruler blade in said concave-convex configuration is 9.75mm.

Claim 5 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 1, wherein said ruler blade has a longitudinal central portion and two longitudinal side portions integrally extended from two sides of said central portion of said ruler blade respectively, wherein each of said side portions of said ruler blade has a curvature smaller than a curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade, wherein said central portion of said ruler blade has a width in said concave-convex configuration thereof having a dimension within a range of 20-22mm, a height in said concave-convex configuration thereof having a dimension within a range of 3-4mm.

Claim 6 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 2, wherein said ruler blade has a longitudinal central portion and two longitudinal side portions integrally extended from two sides of said central portion of said ruler blade respectively, wherein each of said side portions of said ruler blade has a curvature smaller than a curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade, wherein said central portion of said ruler blade has a width in said concave-convex configuration thereof having a dimension within a range of 20-22mm, a height in said concave-convex configuration thereof having a dimension within a range of 3-4mm.

Claim 7 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 3, wherein said ruler blade has a longitudinal central portion and two longitudinal side portions integrally extended from two sides of said central portion of said ruler blade respectively, wherein each of said side portions of said ruler blade has a curvature smaller than a curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade, wherein said central portion of said ruler blade has a width in said concave-convex configuration thereof having a dimension within a range of 20-22mm, a height in said concave-convex configuration thereof having a dimension within a range of 3-4mm.

Claim 8 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 4, wherein said ruler blade has a longitudinal central portion and two longitudinal side portions integrally extended from two sides of said central portion of said ruler blade respectively, wherein each of said side portions of said ruler blade has a curvature smaller than a curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade, wherein said central portion of said ruler blade has a width in said concave-convex configuration thereof

having a dimension within a range of 20-22mm, a height in said concave-convex configuration thereof having a dimension within a range of 3-4mm.

Claim 9 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 5, wherein said curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade is defined that a central projecting radius of said central portion of said ruler blade is 15mm and a central projecting angle of said central portion of said ruler blade is  $84^{\circ}$ , wherein said curvature of each of said side portion of said ruler blade is defined that a side projecting radius of said side portion of said ruler blade is 30mm and a side projecting angle of said side portion of said ruler blade is  $18.43^{\circ}$ .

Claim 10 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 6, wherein said curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade is defined that a central projecting radius of said central portion of said ruler blade is 15mm and a central projecting angle of said central portion of said ruler blade is  $84^{\circ}$ , wherein said curvature of each of said side portion of said ruler blade is defined that a side projecting radius of said side portion of said ruler blade is 30mm and a side projecting angle of said side portion of said ruler blade is  $18.43^{\circ}$ .

Claim 11 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 7, wherein said curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade is defined that a central projecting radius of said central portion of said ruler blade is 15mm and a central projecting angle of said central portion of said ruler blade is  $84^{\circ}$ , wherein said curvature of each of said side portion of said ruler blade is defined that a side projecting radius of said side portion of said ruler blade is 30mm and a side projecting angle of said side portion of said ruler blade is  $18.43^{\circ}$ .

Claim 12 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 8, wherein said curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade is defined that a central projecting radius of said central portion of said ruler blade is 15mm and a central projecting angle of said central portion of said ruler blade is  $84^{\circ}$ , wherein said curvature of each of said side portion of said ruler blade is defined that a side projecting radius of said side portion of said ruler blade is 30mm and a side projecting angle of said side portion of said ruler blade is  $18.43^{\circ}$ .

Claim 13 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 5, wherein said curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade is defined that a central projecting radius of said central portion of said ruler blade is 15mm and a central projecting angle of said central portion of said ruler blade is  $84^{\circ}$ , wherein said curvature of each of said side portion of said ruler blade is defined that a side projecting radius of said side portion of said ruler blade is 45mm and a side projecting angle of said side portion of said ruler blade is  $12.3^{\circ}$ .

Claim 14 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 6, wherein said curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade is defined that a central projecting radius of said central portion of said ruler blade is 15mm and a central projecting angle of said central portion of said ruler blade is  $84^{\circ}$ , wherein said curvature of each of said side portion of said ruler blade is defined that a side projecting radius of said side portion of said ruler blade is 45mm and a side projecting angle of said side portion of said ruler blade is  $12.3^{\circ}$ .

Claim 15 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 7, wherein said curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade is defined that a central projecting radius of said central portion of said ruler blade is 15mm and a central projecting angle of said central portion of said ruler blade is  $84^{\circ}$ , wherein said curvature of each of said side portion of said ruler blade is defined that a side projecting radius of said side portion of said ruler blade is 45mm and a side projecting angle of said side portion of said ruler blade is  $12.3^{\circ}$ .

Claim 16 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 8, wherein said curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade is defined that a central projecting radius of said central portion of said ruler blade is 15mm and a central projecting angle of said central portion of said ruler blade is  $84^{\circ}$ , wherein said curvature of each of said side portion of said ruler blade is defined that a side projecting radius of said side portion of said ruler blade is 45mm and a side projecting angle of said side portion of said ruler blade is  $12.3^{\circ}$ .

Claim 17 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 5, wherein said curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade is defined that a

central projecting radius of said central portion of said ruler blade is 18mm and a central projecting angle of said central portion of said ruler blade is  $74^{\circ}$ , wherein said curvature of each of said side portion of said ruler blade is defined that a side projecting radius of said side portion of said ruler blade is 45mm and a side projecting angle of said side portion of said ruler blade is  $11.5^{\circ}$ .

Claim 18 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 6, wherein said curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade is defined that a central projecting radius of said central portion of said ruler blade is 18mm and a central projecting angle of said central portion of said ruler blade is  $74^{\circ}$ , wherein said curvature of each of said side portion of said ruler blade is defined that a side projecting radius of said side portion of said ruler blade is 45mm and a side projecting angle of said side portion of said ruler blade is  $11.5^{\circ}$ .

Claim 19 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 7, wherein said curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade is defined that a central projecting radius of said central portion of said ruler blade is 18mm and a central projecting angle of said central portion of said ruler blade is  $74^{\circ}$ , wherein said curvature of each of said side portion of said ruler blade is defined that a side projecting radius of said side portion of said ruler blade is 45mm and a side projecting angle of said side portion of said ruler blade is  $11.5^{\circ}$ .

Claim 20 (original): The strengthened blade tape measure, as recited in claim 8, wherein said curvature of said central portion of said ruler blade is defined that a central projecting radius of said central portion of said ruler blade is 18mm and a central projecting angle of said central portion of said ruler blade is  $74^{\circ}$ , wherein said curvature of each of said side portion of said ruler blade is defined that a side projecting radius of said side portion of said ruler blade is 45mm and a side projecting angle of said side portion of said ruler blade is  $11.5^{\circ}$ .